

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 160337  
ORIGIN SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-02 EUR-12 /015 R

DRAFTED BY SCA/SCS/RCARTER:RAM  
APPROVED BY SCA/SCS/FESTEVENS  
SCA/SCS/EAPOWERS

-----008181 111703Z /43

P 111644Z JUL 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 160337

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC (FRIEDMAN, STEPHEN)

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST: COMPLAINT OF STEPHEN  
FRIEDMAN

1. SENATOR JAVITS INTERESTED.
2. SENATOR FORWARDED FOLLOWING LETTER (DATE JUNE 10)  
TO DEPARTMENT FOR REPLY: STEPHEN FRIEDMAN: QUOTE MY WIFE  
AND I HAD PLANNED A CHARTER VACATION TO SPAIN  
BEGINNING MAY 28TH AND ENDING JUNE 12TH. WHEN WE WERE IN  
MADRID, WE DISCOVERED THAT THE TOUR OPERATOR HAD NOT  
BOOKED US ON A RETURN FLIGHT TO NEW YORK. AFTER A  
FRANTIC TWO DAYS IN MADRID TRYING TO WORK OUT THIS  
PROBLEM, WE CAME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT WE HAD TO PURCHASE  
TWO ONE WAY TICKETS TO NEW YORK ON A REGULAR SCHEDULED  
FLIGHT. THE COST OF THIS WAS DOLLARS 640.00 (SIX HUNDRED  
FORTY), AN AMOUNT WHICH WE WERE GOING TO USE ON THE  
REMAINDER OF OUR VACATION. WE ALSO HAD TO CUT SHORT  
OUR TRIP BY ONE WEEK BECAUSE OF OUR UNABILITY TO CASH A  
PERSONAL CHECK, THEREBY USING TRAVELERS CHECKS TO PAY FOR  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 160337

THE TWO TICKETS FOR THE RETURN FLIGHT HOME.

WE WENT TO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF  
ASKING FOR HELP IN THIS DIFFICULT SITUATION. WE DID NOT  
ASK FOR MONEY RATHER (FOR ASSISTANCE IN HELPING US CA  
A

PERSONAL CHECK AT ONE OF THE BANKS IN MADRID. WE WERE GIVEN THE RUN-AROUND. WE WERE TOLD NOTHING COULD BE DONE. ABSOLUTELY NO ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO HELP US OTHER THAN THEIR WILLINGNESS TO PLACE A LONG DISTANCE COLLECT CALL TO ONE OF OUR RELATIVES IN THE UNITED STATES. THERE WAS A NO-CARE ATTITUDE. WE PAY AN AWFUL LOT OF TAXES TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND CERTAINLY SHOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO RECEIVE SOME SORT OF ASSISTANCE FROM THE EMBASSY STAFF. WE ONLY ASKED THAT THEY HELP US WITH A BANK WHICH COULD CASH A CHECK FOR US. I AM QUITE SURE THEY KNOW OF CERTAIN BANK OFFICIALS WHO COULD HAVE HELPED. INSTEAD, ALL WE RECEIVED WAS A CURT REPLY THAT NOTHING COULD BE DONE.

I WANT YOU TO INVESTIGATE THIS. I AM OUTRAGED AS AN AMERICAN CITIZEN WHO HAD A PROBLEM, WENT TO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY AND FOUND THAT NOTHING COULD BE DONE. WHAT AM I PAYING TAXES FOR? I AM SURE IF AN AMERICAN BUSINESS WENT TO MADRID THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN ACCORDED DIFFERENT TREATMENT. PLEASE INVESTIGATE AND LET ME KNOW. I AM MOST ANXIOUS TO HEAR FROM YOU. SIGNED STEPHEN FRIEDMAN. UNQUOTE.

3. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO CABLE REPORT TO DEPARTMENT FOR USE IN ANSWERING SENATOR'S LETTER. VANCE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 11-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE160337  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** RAM  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770246-0109  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770770/aaaacjfn.tel  
**Line Count:** 86  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 79d3676d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN SCSE  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1902558  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST: COMPLAINT OF STEPHEN FRIEDMAN  
**TAGS:** CASC, (FRIEDMAN, STEPHEN)  
**To:** MADRID  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/79d3676d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009